

these on the 12th May 1857, disorder began and looting on the roads, and the people of Secundrabad began to live in fear of plundering, and yet they engaged Goojurs as guards for the defence of their houses and Mohullahs, and there were Goojurs placed as sowars and peons, on guard at the tahseel. The Colonel (Kotwal) and Tahseeldar went the rounds every night with the sowars and peons. On the 19th May about 12 in the day, a mutinied regiment entered from the east, on whose arrival all the arrangements in the thanah and tahseel were disarranged. The Goojur sowars and peons all fled. On the night of the same date, the Goojurs of Cheetee, Deotah, and Masowtah etc., made an attack on Bulandshahr. The carts loaded with Kand (Khand) etc. which were standing in the gunj of Secundrabad were looted by the Goojur Chokidars of the town, Sibha and Ramsahace etc., inhabitants of Khugooabas, and Nawal etc., inhabitants of Pempoor with Himmut their Jamadar.

#### ATTACK ON TOWN AND TAHSIL

After this, in the morning, the Goojurs of Khugooabas etc. made an attack on the town and tahseel. The weavers and butchers etc., came out to resist the attack and repulsed them, one or two of the Goojurs were killed and their coming and going into the town was stopped. The Goojurs now grew in all eager (sic.-eagerness) resolved to loot the town. At length the Goojurs of . . . . ., Mehsseh, Hurnowtee, . . . . . (Mss. torn at this place) together, and on the 3rd May the Goojurs took the Girooas with them, set fire to the Guddeewalah and went on looting up to the Bazar Kallan and Gunj. Meanwhile the weavers and Guddees, and Hassen Buksh and Karim Buksh, Resaldars, and Ali Raza Duffadar with other Mussulmen, came out to oppose them and a fight ensued, in which seventy or eighty of Goojurs and Girooas, and three or four of the town, were killed, and Karim Buksh Resaldar, was wounded in the foot by a bullet. In consequence of this the Goojurs and Girooas became more intent on the loot of the town, and Panchayuts were held in the villages of Cheetee, Deotah,

The principal town of the pargana and tahsil of the same name lies on the Grand Trunk Road, at a distance of eleven miles west of Bulandshahr and 3 miles south-east of Delhi. (*District Gazetteers, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, 1888, p. 295*).

make an attack on the town, one of whom, son of Mihtab of Khugooabas, was killed by the weavers, and Sahib Singh brother of Jhendoo zemindar of Nugla Nynsookh, was also killed, from which the Goojurs of the neighbourhood were to the utmost excited to plunder, and on the 23rd May 1857 the Girooas inhabiting Mahehsch, Bhonra<sup>1</sup>, and Weyr, assembled with four or five thousand men, and in conjunction with the Goojurs, attacked the town, plundered the Guddeewalah and Chanscwalah, and then the Bazaar Kullan (Bazar Kalan) the Gunj which is my property, and moreover set fire to several places, and about seventy men on the side of the Girooas were killed on the spot, in the struggle with the inhabitants of the town, on which the Goojurs and Girooas grew more intent on the destruction of the town. About this time, Waleedad who had come from Delhi having been made Subah, excited Bishun Singh, Bhagwant Singh, and Umrau Singh at Dadree, to plunder and excite disorder as two Goojurs had been killed in Secundrabad. The men of Khugooabas, and Jhendoo zemindar of Nugla Nynsookh, went to the 'Goojurs' villages, threw down their bugries, incited them all to disorder and assembled them in Punchayat at Tilbegumpoor, and the Girooas and Ghalot (Gahlot) Rajpoots also were in the above Punchayat, and shared their designs, till at length they looted the weavers Muhallah, Chowdrywalah, Hurree, Kazeewalah, Bedwala etc. from the 31st May to the 3rd June, on various days plundering one Muhallah after they had done with the other and there was also great slaughter, and the men of the town became bewildered and began to run away to save their lives, and the rebels were so numerous that no one could fight or resist them. He heard that the ringleaders of the rebels in these disorders were the men of the villages mentioned below Umrau Singh of Katereh, Hurdeo and Roop Ram of Bil, Mujlis zemindar of Loharlee<sup>2</sup>, and Indar and Bholoo of Masowtah, Kulloo zemindar of Cheetee, Sibba and Ram Sahaee and Bhowra of Khugooabas, Meda and Bustee of Sownlee, Mulkee of Hirdey-

<sup>1</sup> Apparently Bhaunra, Pargana Shikarpur, Tahsil Budhana, District Muzaffarnagar—A large village near the western border of the pargana, at a distance of about seven miles north-west of Budhana between Sisauli and Kharay. (District Gazetteers, Muzaffarnagar, Vol. III, 1903, p. 219).

<sup>2</sup> Apparently Lohari, Pargana Thana Bhawan, Tahsil Kairana, District Muzaffarnagar—A large village on the eastern borders of the pargana, a

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S. A. A. RIZVI, M.A., PH.D., P.E.S.

RUPEES SIXTEEN

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Craigie subsequent to the outbreak; they were of course completely raw, badly mounted and worse armed having as little confidence themselves in their horses, as we had in the riders : their subsequent conduct showed what they were worth, and besides them we had the few men who accompanied us on our retreat from Boolundshuhur.

356.—On our arrival at Hauppur (Hapur), we heard the Sirmoor Battalion had reached Boolundshuhur, and we arrived early on the morning of the 26th. We found the posts and wire of the Telegraph had been entirely removed between Hauppur and Boolundshuhur, a distance of 20 miles.<sup>1</sup>

### BULANDSHAHIR TREASURE CARRIED OFF TO DELHI

*Extract of a letter from W. Muir to J. Muir, dated Agra, 2nd June 1857.*

... While our communications with Meerut were closed, Bolundshuhur also fell, and its treasure was carried off to Dehli, but under what circumstances I am not fully cognisant. The Station has since been regained, and is occupied by Goorkha troops. The impression here is that the Meerut force has not been sufficiently active; so large a body of European troops to remain so long on the defensive under such circumstances is unintelligible : Rohtuck (Rohtak) has been also plundered from Dehli. Tidings have been received of the mutiny of the regiments at Nusseerabad, but without details. It is hoped that the treasury at Ajmere may have escaped. The Mozuffernugger Treasury also went; but in consequence of the attack, I believe, of robbers and not of mutineers.

Thus you will see that these treacherous sepoys have gained immense booty. From three to seven lacs of rupees were in the several treasuries.<sup>2</sup>

### OUTBREAK IN BULANDSHAHIR DISTRICT

*Statement of Qazi Kamaluddin, Rais of Secundrabad (Sikandarabad).*

#### SIKANDARABAD IN CHAOS

The circumstances of the plunder of Secundrabad<sup>3</sup> are

<sup>1</sup> *Mutiny Narratives*, N. W. P. Agra, Meerut Division, pp. 50-54.

<sup>2</sup> Muir, William : *Records of the Intelligence Department of the Government of the North-West Provinces of India during the Mutiny of 1857*, Vol. I, p. 33.

<sup>3</sup> Sikandarabad—Pargana and Tahsil Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr—

43, 44, 45, 49, 51, 91, 303  
954

perhaps Fatteh) zemindar of Mundsseh, Umrau Singh of Kutehra, Namdar Khan of Andhel, Meda and Bustee of Saonlee (Sanwli), Sibha and Ramsahae Goojurs of Khugooabas, the zemindars of Mahcheh, the zemindars of Gurbureh, the zemindars of Hurnowtee, and... (not clear) and Mehssah, and Bhonra which are Girooa villages and the zemindars of Kalown-deh<sup>1</sup>, Nagla Samnah, Kownrah and Tahwur Ali Khan, were all engaged in this loot of Secundrabad. In that there was no village of the Goojurs and Girooas, in the neighbourhood, which did not take part in this affair, I fled on the night of the 2nd June. I have nothing more to tell.

#### VILLAGERS PARTICIPATE IN PLUNDERING

Apart from this, the villagers of Lalpoor on the road to Bulandshahur, Zaukabad, Kot, Chitehrch, and Chola<sup>2</sup> on the Trunk Road, committed robberies on the roads, and prevented travellers from coming and going.<sup>3</sup>

\* \* \*

Statement of Munshi Lachhman Sarup—Rais of Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr.

The circumstances of the plunder of the town of Secundrabad are these when the news of the mutiny of the sepoys at Meerut (Meerut) had arrived on the 12th May the course of the Govt. post was stopped, and plundering began on all four sides of Secundrabad, on the road and paths, and Mr. G. D. Turnbull came to Secundrabad to make arrangements for stopping the plunder, engaged the Goojurs inhabiting Masow-

<sup>1</sup> Kalaunda, Pargana Dadri, Tahsil Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr—A village in the extreme south-east of the pargana, lying between Gesupur on the east, Jarcha on the north, and Chholas on the west, at a distance of eight miles north of Sikandarabad, with which it is connected by the unmetalled road leading to Jarcha. (*District Gazetteers*, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, 1903, p. 249).

<sup>2</sup> Chola, Pargana and Tahsil Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr—A village on the old Grand Trunk Road, seven miles south-west from Bulandshahr and ten miles south-east from Sikandarabad. (*District Gazetteers*, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, 1903, p. 215).

<sup>3</sup> Bulandshahr Collectorate Mutiny Basta.

Note—This document and the next two contain names of such places the spellings of which are mostly other than the current ones. Hence it has become difficult to standardize the spellings of the places as well as to identify them.

poor, Bunsee zemindar of Nugla Chumrao, Mungnee zemindar of Setlee, Jhendoo zemindar of Nugla Nynsookh, Futtah Goojur of Chateroh, Debi Singh zemindar of Mehsseh, Hurbul and Khobee and Dildar, of Weyer, Chowdry Pir Buksh Khan of Tilbegumpoor, Zabteh Khan zemindar of Mundsseh, and the zemindars of mouzah Kirourah, Chowdry Tahwur Ali Khan Raees of Gurhmukhtesur<sup>1</sup>, Chowlas<sup>2</sup>, Jurchah (Jarcha), Kalown-deh, Parsreh, Nugla Samanah etc. and the Chokidars of the town, and Kuddum (Kadam) Goojur of Pempoor were all concerned in the loot and the Goojurs and Girooas of all the other villages were rebels and sharers in the above loot. The Kaithwalah, Shekhwadah Muhallahs, Khuttrewalah, half of the Bhatwalah, and half Ram Poora, had escaped plunder as yet. When the people of the town had no longer any power to resist, and they were weakened by the desertion of the other Muhallahs, and they had got no more powder, and the numbers of the rebels increased every day, and no one dared to oppose them any more, then all the people in the Muhallahs agreed that it would be best if by giving the rebels something the property that remained could be saved. Accordingly the people of the Khuttrewalah and Bhatwalah Muhallahs, gave money to the Goojurs of Nizampoor<sup>3</sup> and Cheetee and Deotah in hopes of saving themselves; in like manner the people of Muhallah Kaithwalah, assembled at the Gunga Munder (Ganga Mandir) and asked protection from Duleep zemindar of Deotah and Sameh Muiuddin of Gurhee etc., and the Goojurs

short distance north of the road from Muzaffarnagar to Thana Bhawan at a distance of about three miles from the latter and 17 miles from Muzaffarnagar. (*District Gazetteers*, Muzaffarnagar, Vol. III, 1903, p. 290).

<sup>1</sup> *Garhmuktesar*, Pargana *Garhmuktesar*, Tahsil *Hapur*, District *Meerut*—The capital of the pargana is situated in latitude 28° 47' north and longitude 78° 6' east, on the right bank of the Ganges. It is connected with Meerut by a metalled road 28 miles in length. Another metalled road leads to *Hapur*, a distance of 21 miles and *Delhi*, 58 miles. (*District Gazetteers*, *Meerut*, Vol. IV, 1922, p. 224).

<sup>2</sup> *Chholas*, Pargana *Dadri*, Tahsil *Sikandarabad*, District *Bulandshahr*—A village in the east of the Pargana, about 3 miles east of the Grand Trunk Road, 7 miles east of *Dadri* and 6 miles north of *Sikandarabad*. (*District Gazetteers*, *Bulandshahr*, Vol. V, 1903, p. 214).

<sup>3</sup> *Nizampur*, Pargana *Garhmuktesar*, Tahsil *Hapur*, District *Meerut*—A very small village, in latitude 28° 50' north and longitude 78° 2' east, on the metalled road from *Meerut* to *Garhmuktesar*, at a distance of 20 miles from the former. (*District Gazetteers*, *Meerut*, Vol. IV, 1922, p. 288).

tah, Cheetec, and Fureedpoor (Faridpur) etc. as sawars and peons for the defence of the town, and the people of the town also and the zemindars, who were well disposed, engaged guards, and in concert with the Tahseeldar, made arrangements for the defence of the city and the servants of the Government, and the newly engaged Goojurs went round, and the Goojurs above mentioned were stationed to keep watch on all four sides of the town, and at night Mr. Turnbull inspected the watch throughout the town, and as the disorder was greatest in the direction of Dadree (Dadri), Mr. Turnbull went that way and at Budpoora, a sepoy—son of Ahman Goojur, who had mutinied and come from Meruth made resistance, and that Lachman Bhartee, chela of Nychal Bhartee, after which he was himself killed by that gentleman. Mr. Turnbull also took and brought into the Gunj at Secundrabad, the carts loaded with sugar, which the Goojurs had looted and taken to their villages. On that day when these gentlemen went away again to Bulundshuhur, and on seeing the Goojurs assembled at Dalegurh and Rampoor, took them prisoners, and put them into jail at Bulundshuhur. We also heard that on the way the men of Rajpoor Kullan (Rajpur Kalan) wished to rescue the prisoners, but were unable to do it. Afterwards, the Goojurs of the several villages of Deotah, and Til, assembled at Cheetec with the intention of releasing them from the jail. Umrao Singh Goojur who used to call himself Raja during the disturbances, and the Goojurs of Utteh and Gehnah, etc. and many of the Girooas of Weyer, Mehsch, Bhonra etc. assembled there (Cheetec), went to Bulundshuhur, and released the above named prisoners, and all the Chokidars of the town, together with the Goojurs of Hirdeypoor, Setlee etc. plundered the sugar carts in the Gunj. The ring-leaders among the Chokidars of Ranowlee, Nawul Chokidar of Pempoor, Sibba, Ramsahae, and Bhawra; inhabitants of Khulgoobas and Tota, and Jehangeera inhabitants of the town of Secundrabad.<sup>1</sup> Soon after, the mutinied Regiment came from Allygurh and Bulundshuhur, and looted the tahseel and treasury, and upset the local authorities, and all the Goojurs who had been taken into service, went away with one accord, and about this time, four-five hundred men came from Khugooabas intepding to

<sup>1</sup> Sentence incomplete.

Tilbegumpoor<sup>1</sup>, Dadree, etc., in order to loot Secunderabad so that the beams and rafters should not be left.

About this time, the rebel Waleedad had been appointed ... at Delhi, and came to Dadree<sup>2</sup>, and there encouraged the Goojurs to rebel and loot. Accordingly on the 31st May 1857, the Goojurs and Girooas and Rajpoots, assembled to the number of about twenty thousand, and first set fire to the weavers Mohullah, and killed a great number of men and wounded others. The whole Mohullah was looted; on the 1st June '57 they looted the Bazaar of Madho Das, Mohullah Hurree, and Sarowgeewalah, and part of Cazeewalah (Qaziwala) and set fire to my Sarree (Sarai), which was on the road; the bhuttiaras fled. When it was difficult for us to stay, and we saw that we would be killed and saw no chance of escape, then I with the inhabitants of the Mohullah, male and female, fled in a state of uncertainty, abandoned property, to Mauzah... (Mss. torn at this place)... Chunderuh<sup>3</sup> together with the Tahseeldar and Cotwal and both Residars, and the police officers whom I, as a loyal subject, had received in my house. Kalloo zemindar of Cheetee, Pir Buksh Khan etc., zemindars of Tilbegumpoor, the zemindars of Ludpoora, Kumseen etc., inhabitants of Salempoor<sup>4</sup>, Luchman etc., inhabitants of Rampore, Pebteh (not clear

<sup>1</sup> Tilbegampur, Pargana and Tahsil Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr—A village lying three-and-a-half miles north-west of Sikandarabad, between the Grand Trunk Road and the road from Sikandarabad to Surajpur. (*District Gazetteers*, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, 1903, p. 313).

<sup>2</sup> Perhaps it may be 'Naib' or 'Subah'.

<sup>3</sup> Dadri, Pargana Dadri, Tahsil Sikandarabad, District Bulandshahr—The capital of the pargana is a large village on the west side of the Grand Trunk Road, at a distance of 22 miles from Delhi, eleven miles from Sikandarabad and 22 miles from Bulandshahr. (*District Gazetteers*, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, 1903, p. 215).

<sup>4</sup> Apparently Chaudhera, Pargana Pahasu, Tahsil Khurja, District Bulandshahr—A large village in the east of the pargana between the Dihai boundary and the Kali Nadi, which skirts the village on the west. About a mile to the east of the main site runs the metalled road from Aligarh to Anupshahr. (*District Gazetteers*, Bulandshahr, Vol. V, p. 212).

<sup>5</sup> Apparently Salempur, Pargana and Tahsil Hathras, District Aligarh—A village in the extreme east of the pargana, standing in 27° 38' N. and 28° 12' E., on the north side of the provincial road from Muttra to Kasganj, about eleven miles from Hathras, 19 from Aligarh and three miles west from Rati-ka-Nagla station on the Cawnpore-Achnera line. (*District Gazetteers*, Aligarh, Vol. VI, 1909, p. 286).

of Saonlee and they gave about 350 Rupees. About this time three or four parties of mutineers passed through, and killed every Goojur they met on the road-side; the rebels from fear of the mutineers, who were said to be coming every day, or from desire of going, abstained from plundering several days. At length, on the 17th June 1857, the rebels above named, and the Gahlot Rajpoots, made an attack, broke open the doors of the houses and other buildings, began to plunder, and the inhabitants of those *Muhallahs* unable to resist them, ran whichever way they were looking. The ringleaders of the Gahlot Rajpoots were Hurdial Singh, Deedar Singh of Nugla Samanah, Phool Singh of Parsch zh. Meruth (Meerut), and the men of Kalowndeh and Bajhereh were there in great numbers and the next day the Khuttrewalah *Muhallah* was also looted, and the town was ruined and desolate, and the rebels above named continued for two or three months digging out and carrying away the rafters and door parts and doors, and in the search for ornaments etc. pulled down and ruined all the houses, and the villagers along the roads are also guilty of the highway robberies on the roads but the *zemindar* of Lalpoor which is on the edge of the road to Bulundshuhur looted on the roads and pressed the passers-by so hard, that they did not leave the shoes on their feet, or caps on their heads; they took all the goods and money worth taking. Besides these villages, the men of the following villages robbed on the roads to the utmost, and plundered the passers-by : Zoukabad, Nugla Chamrao, Kot, Saonlee, Jowlee<sup>1</sup>, Myndours<sup>2</sup>, Dyanugar, Pir Bayabanee, Khugooabas, Nayabas in the neighbourhood of Secundrabad, Fareedpoor.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Jauli*, Pargana *Jauli Jansath*, Tahsil *Jansath*, District *Muzaffarnagar*—A large and important village on the left bank of the Ganges Canal in the north of the pargana, at a distance of six miles from *Jansath* and nine miles from *Muzaffarnagar*, with which it is connected by an unmetalled road. (*District Gazetteers*, *Muzaffarnagar*, Vol. III, 1903, p. 259).

<sup>2</sup> Apparently *Mandaula*, Pargana *Loni*, Tahsil *Ghaziabad*, District *Meerut*—A considerable village in the north of the pargana on the unmetalled road from *Shahdara* and *Loni* to *Baghpat*, situated in latitude  $28^{\circ} 49'$  north and longitude  $77^{\circ} 17'$  east, at a distance of five miles north of *Loni* and four miles south of *Khekra*. (*District Gazetteers*, *Meerut*, Vol. IV, 1922, p. 268).

<sup>3</sup> *Bulandshahr* Collectorate Mutiny Basta.

# **FREEDOM STRUGGLE IN UTTAR PRADESH**

*SOURCE-MATERIAL*

**VOLUME V**  
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